Approved For Release 2006/04/20 : CIA-RDP82-00457R011200320092-



FORM NO. FEB 1952 51-4AA

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT		25X
COMFIDENTIAL	CD NO.	

COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 27 March 1952

25X1 SUBJECT

25X

Securitate Interrogation Methods at Abrud (Transylvania)

NO. OF PAGES

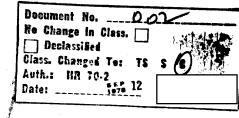
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVE-LATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON 1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

- Abrud is a gold-mining town where prisoners are used as laborers together with regular workers. Between fifty and sixty prisoners were brought daily to Abrud on suspicion of possessing hard currency, gold or jewels in Rumania or abroad. Here they were first taken to the office of the Securitate for questioning.
- 2. In the Securitate they are led into a large hall and ordered to stand racing the wall. Sometimes they are kept in this position for as long as two or three days unless they reveal where their property is hidden. If they do not confess then they are threatened with the "freezing" chambers. These are cellars where prisoners are subjected to cold until they confess. Those who faint while standing have water poured on their faces, and when they recover the interrogation is begun anew. At Abrud, no one is beaten.
- 3. Those few who do not "break" are taken to the Securitate in Bucharest, which has a reputation for severe maltreatment of suspects. Trials are conducted by a Major Iosif, formerly head of the Securitate at Oradea. Iosif informed prisoners that their denials were a waste of time as they would not be released unless they handed over their money. The majority of the persons interrogated in this fashion were persons suspected of dealing in jewels or currency. Most of them confessed and surrendered their property.



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